I claim:

1. A method for maintaining parameter data in a computing system, comprising the steps of:

(a) creating a text file of parameter meta data;

(b) representing said text file as a Graphical User Interface (GUI) having parameter fields, and for each parameter field, having one or more attribute sub-fields, each of said sub-fields being text editable; and

(c) storing attribute text entered in any said sub-field to a data store.

2. The method of claim 1, whereby, in step (a), creation of said text file is performed using the Extensible Markup Language (XML).

3. The method of claim 2, whereby said XML text file includes as URI that specifies a database protocol and location, and said URI is utilized in step (c).

4. The method of clam 2, comprising the further step, following step (b), of:

calling any existing attribute data from said data store for said sub-fields to be displayed by said GUI.

5. The method of claim 4, whereby step (b) is performed by use of Java code.

6. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step, after step (b) said GUI, calling a subset of said text file, corresponding to a parameter to be displayed.

7. A method for maintaining parameter data in a computing system, comprising the steps of:

(a) creating a text file of parameter meta data using XML;

(b) representing said text file as a Graphical User Interface (GUI) having parameter fields, and for each parameter field, having one or more attribute sub-fields, each of said sub-fields being text editable by use of Java code;

(c) for a subset of said text file corresponding to a parameter, calling any existing data from said data store for said the relevant sub-fields; and

(d) storing attribute text entered or edited in the respective sub-field for the called parameter to said data store.

8. A client-server computing system comprising:

(a) one or more client processor machines, each having a visual display, and operating a Graphical User Interface (GUI);

(b) a server machine running an application program that utilises parameter meta data to represent data passed between said client machines and said server;

(c) a communications link between each said client and arranged such that each said client machine can communicate with said server; and

wherein said server includes a data store containing a text file of parameter meta data, and said GUI receives said text file and displays it on a said client machine as a plurality of parameter fields each said field having one or more attribute sub-fields, each said sub-field being text editable, and further wherein any attribute text entered in a said sub-field is stored in said server data store.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein said GUI also displays any existing attribute data retrieved from said data store.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said text file is created using XML.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein said GUI utilises Java code to display said XML file.

12. A method for maintaining parameter data in a computing system, comprising the steps of:

(a) creating a text file of parameter meta data;

(b) representing said text file as a Graphical User Interface (GUI) having parameter fields, each of said sub-fields being text editable; and

(c) storing attribute text entered in any said sub-field to a data store.

13. The method of claim 12, whereby, in step (a), creation of said text file is performed using the Extensible Markup Language (XML).

14. The method of claim 13, whereby said XML text file includes as URI that specifies a database protocol and location, and said URI is utilized in step (c).

15. The method of clam 13, comprising the further step, following step (b), of:

calling any existing attribute data from said data store for said fields to be displayed by said GUI.

16. The method of claim 15, whereby step (b) is performed by use of Java code.

17. The method of claim 12, comprising the further step, after step (b) said GUI, calling a subset of said text file, corresponding to a parameter to be displayed.

18. A computing device comprising:

(a) processor means running an application program that utilises parameter meta data;

(b) a visual display operating a Graphical User Interface (GUI) under the control of said processor means;

(c) data storage means, containing a text file of parameter meta data under the control of said processor means; and

wherein said GUI receives said text file from said data storage means and displays it as a plurality of parameter fields, each said field having one or more attribute sub-fields, each said sub-field being text editable, and further wherein any attribute text entered in a said sub-field is stored in said data storage means.

19. The computing device of claim 18, wherein said GUI also displays any existing attribute data retrieved from said data store.

20. The computing device of claim 19, wherein said text file is created using XML.

21. The computing device of claim 20, wherein said GUI utilises Java code to display said XML file.